



March 1, 2022

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor of Florida
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

The Honorable Wilton Simpson
President, Florida Senate
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

The Honorable Chris Sprowls
Speaker, Florida House of Representatives
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Governor DeSantis, President Simpson, and Speaker Sprowls,

Under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have made astounding progress on critical Everglades restoration projects including significant advancements building water storage north, south, east and west of Lake Okeechobee. Forty-four significant milestones have been achieved over the past three years to improve water management for the benefit of more than 9 million South Floridians and the communities in which we serve.

On behalf of the SFWMD and the DEP, we are pleased to provide you with the *2022 South Florida Environmental Report*, a consolidated compilation of reports and information in accordance with Subsection 373.036(7), Florida Statutes.

This peer-reviewed, three-volume report provides the science and data used to drive decisions at the South Florida Water Management District. The report also documents

restoration, water quality, scientific and engineering accomplishments in the Kissimmee Basin, Lake Okeechobee, Everglades and South Florida's coastal areas during the 2021 Water Year (WY).

The full report is available online and covers environmental information of WY 2021 (May 1, 2020-April 30, 2021) and project/budgetary information for the SFWMD Fiscal Year 2021 (Oct. 1, 2020-Sept. 30, 2021). A summary of highlights as well as previous consolidated reports are also available at SFWMD.gov/SFER.

Our agencies continue to focus on ensuring that environmental restoration moves forward as expeditiously as possible by adhering to schedules and completing projects in a measurable and cost-effective way. Thank you for your support as we work together toward restoring America's Everglades and helping to keep South Florida a great place to live, work visit and raise families.

Respectfully,



Shawn Hamilton, Secretary

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Respectfully,



Drew Bartlett, Executive Director

South Florida Water Management District

cc: The Honorable Jeanette Núñez, Lieutenant Governor
Members, Florida Senate and Florida House of Representatives
Members, SFWMD Governing Board

Attachment: *2022 South Florida Environmental Report Highlights*